To raiſe a preſent ſumme ; therefore goe forth,
Trie what my credit can in *Venice* doe,
That ſhall be rackt even to the uttermoſt,
To furniſh thee to *Belmount* to faire *Portia.*
Goe preſently enquire, and ſo will I,
Where money is, and I no queſtion make
To have it of my truſt, or for my ſake. *Exeunt.*

Enter *Portia* with her wating-woman *Nerriſſa.*

Por. By my troth *Nerriſſa,* my little body is aweary of this great world.

Ner. You would be, ſweet Madam, if your miſeries were in the ſame aboundance as your good fortunes are : and yet for ought I ſee, they are as ſick that ſurfeit with too much, as they that ſtarve with nothing ; it is no meane happines therefore to be ſeated in the meane, ſuperfluitie comes ſooner by white haires, but competencie lives longer.

Por. Good ſentences, and well pronounc'd.

Ner. They would be better if well follow'd.

Por. If to do were as eaſie as to know what were good to do, Chappels had beene Churches, and poore mens cottages Princes Pallaces, it is a good divine that followes his owne inſtructions, I can eaſier teach twenty vvhat were good to be done, then to be one of the twenty to follow mine own teaching : the braine may deviſe lawes for the blood, but a hote temper leapes ore a cold decree, ſuch a hare is madnes the youth, to skip ore the meſhes of good counſell the cripple ; but this reaſoning is not in the faſhion to chooſe me a husband, ô mee the word chooſe, I may neither chooſe who I would, nor refuſe who I diſlike, ſo is the wil of a lyving daughter curbd by the will of a dead father : is it not harde *Nerriſſa,* that I cannot chooſe one, nor refuſe none.

Ner. Your Father was ever vertuous, and holy men at their death have good inſpirations, therefore the lottry that he hath deviſed in theſe three cheſts of gold, ſilver, and leade, vvhereof who chooſes his meaning chooſes you, will no doubt never be choſen by any rightly, but one who you ſhall rightly love : But vvhat warmth is there in your affection towards any of theſe Princely ſuters that are already come ?

Por. I pray thee over-name them, and as t
will deſcribe them, and according to my de
my affection.

Ner. Firſt there is the *Neopolitane* Princ

Por. I, that's a colt indeed, for he doth n
his horſe, and he makes it a great appropriatio
parts, that he can ſhooe him himſelfe : I am n
die his mother plaid falſe with a Smith.

Ner. Then is there the Countie *Palentine*

Por. He doth nothing but frowne (as who
will not have me, chooſe; he heares merry ta
feare hee will prove the weeping Philoſophe
old, being ſo full of unmannerly ſadneſſe in h
ther be married to a Death's-head with a bone
to either of theſe : God defend me from the

Ner. How ſay you by the French Lord, *M*

Por. God made him, and therefore let hi
truth I know it is a ſin to be a mocker, but h
horſe better than the *Neopolitans,* a better bad
than the Count *Palentine,* he is every man in
ſing, he ſtraight fals a capering, he will fence
dow. If I ſhould marry him, I ſhould marr
if he would deſpiſe me, I would forgive hi
to madneſſe, I ſhall never requite him.

Ner. What ſay you then to *Fauconbridg*
of *England?*

Por. You know I ſay nothing to him, fo
me, nor I him: he hath neither Latine, French
will come into the Court, and ſweare that I
worth in the Engliſh : he is a proper mans p
can converſe with a dumbe ſhow? how odly
he bought his doublet in *Italy,* his round hoſ
net in *Germanie,* and his behaviour every wh

Ner. What thinke you of the Scottiſh Lo

Por. That he hath a neighbourly charitie
rowed a box of the eare of the Engliſhman,
pay him againe when he was able : I think
came his Suretie, and ſeal'd under for anothe